

Preliminary Amendment  
Reply to Advisory Action dated June 2, 2011  
Application No. 10/567,241  
November 9, 2011

REMARKS

By this amendment, the amendments presented in the previous Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 filed on April 19, 2011 are all included in the present amendment. In addition, the subject matter of dependent claim 17, which was indicated to contain allowable subject matter, has been added to independent claim 16, thereby putting claim 16 into allowable form. Also, the dependency of claims 18, 19, 20 and 21 has been changed to be dependent on independent claim 16. Currently, claims 1-3 and 5-8 and 10-16 and 18-27 are pending in the application.

In the previous office action, the indication that claims 1-3, 5-15 and 22-27 are allowed is noted with appreciation.

In the final office action, claim 16 was rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Hayashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,434,618). In the Advisory Action dated May 4, 2011, the Examiner indicated that the Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 filed on April 19, 2011 overcame all of the previous rejections of claims 1-3, 5-15 and 22-27. The Examiner also stated that claims 1-3, 5-15 and 22-27 would be allowable if submitted in a separate timely filed amendment cancelling the non-allowable claims. The present amendment presents those claims again.

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Applicants also incorporate herein by reference the remarks presented in the previously filed Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116.

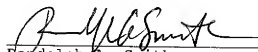
Also, the Examiner indicated that dependent claims 17-21 contained allowable subject matter but they were objected to because they were dependent on a rejected base claim (claim 16). By this amendment, the allowable subject matter of dependent claim 17 has been completely incorporated into independent claim 16. Accordingly, these amendments place the application in condition for allowance without any new issues requiring further search or consideration.

Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance and an action to this effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding the amendments or these remarks, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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